Key Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Cryptanalysis, cryptography, cipher, plaintext, cipher text, encryption, enciphering, encoding, decryption, deciphering, decoding, computational thinking, decomposition, abstraction, algorithmic thinking.

Definitions

* **Cryptanalysis:** The study of breaking (deciphering) secret messages.
* **Cryptography:** The study of creating (enciphering) secret messages.
* **Cipher:** A message written in secret code.
* **Plaintext:** The original message before it is encrypted.
* **Cipher text:** The encrypted message.
* **Encryption (enciphering / encoding):** Hiding a message by using a code or cipher.
* **Decryption (deciphering / decoding):** Revealing a message which has been hidden through a cipher or code.
* **Substitution Cipher:** A type of cipher where each letter is replaced with another one.
* **Transposition Cipher:** A type of cipher where the letters are rearranged in a different order.
* **Polybius Square Cipher:** A type of cipher where the letters in the message are turned into numbers using a 5x5 table.